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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT "A"

APPLICANT(S): T. Chiba et al. DOCKET NO.: P99,2359-01  
SERIAL NO: Unknown GROUP ART UNIT: Unknown  
FILED: May 23, 2000 EXAMINER: Unknown  
INVENTION: "Shape of Microdot Mark Formed by Laser Beam and Microdot  
Marking Method "

which is a continuation-in-part

APPLICANT(S): T. Chiba et al. DOCKET NO.: P99,2359  
SERIAL NO: 09/448,127 GROUP ART UNIT: 1725  
FILED: November 24, 1999 EXAMINER: Unknown  
INVENTION: "Shape of Microdot Mark Formed by Laser Beam and Microdot  
Marking Method "

**Box Patent Application**  
**Assistant Commissioner for Patents**  
**Washington, D.C. 20231**

S I R:

Applicants request that the patent application be amended as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

At page 1, immediately after the title, insert the following paragraph.

--This is a continuation-in-part of application serial No. 09/448,127, filed  
November 24, 1999, incorporated by reference.--

At page 33, the last line, replace "nm and" with --ns.--.